

# Horse Creek Fuels Reduction

# Partners and Collaborators:

- √ Carson City
- ✓ Nevada Land Trust
- √ The Nature Conservancy
- ✓US Forest Service

# Acres to be Treated:

- ✓ 130 of forest
- √ 25 of rangeland
- √ 10 of riparian

# Communities & Residents to be Affected or Protected:

- ✓ Clear Creek Tahoe Subdivision
- √ Clear Creek community
- √ Carson City
- $\checkmark$ 1,000 + residents
- ✓ 200 + structures

#### Watershed(s):

- √ Clear Creek watershed
- √ Carson River



## **Project Purpose**

This project will improve forest and riparian health on at least 140 acres and create enhanced conditions to better protect life and property from catastrophic wildfire as well as maintain sustainable water supplies for municipal, agricultural, and wildlife use.

### **Project Treatments**

Hazardous fuel reduction, aspen restoration, forest restoration, and invasive species management will be implemented to areas surrounding Horse Creek and Clear Creek using hand and mechanical thinning, chipping, and prescribed fire implemented by NDF and contractors. The results will be a reduction of hazardous fuels and restored forest conditions.

## Anticipated Impacts & Outcomes

- Short-term impacts may include visual and noise disturbance during project implementation. Short-term benefits include reduced fuel loading leading to reduced fire hazard.
- Long-term outcomes include improved resiliency of rangelands, riparian areas, and forests. Long-term benefits include improved forest health, reduced fire danger, and improved wildlife habitat.

### **Project Details**

Project Timeline	Start	to End
Project Scoping	Fall 2015	Fall 2017
Resource Inventory	Fall 2015	Fall 2017
Planning	Fall 2015	Fall 2017
Funding Search	Completed	
<b>Funding Acquisition</b>		
Contracting S	pring 2018	Fall 2020
Implementation F	all 2016	Fall 2020
Monitoring S	pring 2017	Spring 2021

#### Threats and Risks to the Area

Wildfire hazards exist to this area. The Highway 50 Fire 2003, Waterfall Fire 2004, Clear Creek Fire 2014, and the Voltaire Fire 2017 occurred in this area leading to the loss of dozens of homes while threatening hundreds more. Increasingly severe wildfires are threatening the health and function of these ecosystems because the fires alter the landscape by converting forests to shrublands and converting native shrublands to cheat grass monoculture.

#### **Priority Landscape(s)**

Funding and treatments were targeted for this area because it is in the Sierra Front priority landscape in the Nevada Natural Resources Action Plan (http://www.stateforesters.org/forestaction-plans/nevada).

## National and Nevada's Cohesive Strategy

This project is part of the strategy because it allows federal, state and local agencies to be more effective and efficient at responding to and controlling wildfires, maintaining resilient landscapes, and creating fireadapted communities.

#### **Funding Source(s)**

- Nevada Division of Forestry
- US Forest Service State and Private Forestry
- Private citizens (through match)

